Marcus Valerius Martialis
One Hundred and Twenty Epigrams of Martial

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EPIGRAMS OF MARTIAL

EDITED BY

J. H. WESTCOTT

MUSGRAVE PROFESSOR OF LATIN IN THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

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ALLYN AND BACON

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TO

John Westcott Gummere.

PREFACE.

As the curriculum is now arranged in most of our colleges, the majority of the undergraduates do not continue the study of Latin and Greek authors beyond the end of the Sophomore year. While those who devote themselves specially to the classics have larger opportunities than formerly, the rest actually make the acquaintance of fewer authors than under the old-fashioned plan. There are, however, several secondary writers of whom it is to be regretted that the average student should not have at least a slight knowledge.

Martial is one of these. This selection is intended for rapid reading, or even for sight reading with students of sufficient ability. For the sake of convenience and rapidity, the notes, which are hardly more than helps to translation, have been placed on the pages with the text. The epigrams have been chosen with a view to the following considerations: to exclude those which are obscure or difficult, and those

which offend against essential or even merely conventional ideas of propriety, and to admit the easier and simpler ones, in which the allusions require little explanation and of which the wit is fairly obvious to the general reader.

In preparing this little volume I have made free use, among other books, of the complete edition by Friedländer, Leipsic, 1886, and of the Selections edited by Stephenson, London, 1887, Morgan, London, 1888, and Paley and Stone, London, 1892.

PRINCETON, *March*, 1894.

INTRODUCTION.

WITHIN a narrow range Martial possessed a really creative genius. He brought to its highest perfection one form of poetry, and his work has been ever since the model and type of the epigram in all the literatures of the world, a model and type which have not been surpassed in any literature.

In its original sense an epigram was a mere inscription upon some material object, such as a monument, a vase, or a votive offering. In its developed sense, we may adopt Lessing's definition and call it "A poem in which, after the manner of a real inscription, our attention and curiosity are excited toward some single object, and more or less held in suspense, in order to be suddenly gratified."[1] It thus falls readily into two parts: the first corresponding to the monument or other material object, which arrests the attention and arouses the curiosity; the second corresponding to the inscription by which that curiosity is satisfied. We usually expect an epigram to be short. Nearly always, if successful, it is witty, but it may be pathetic. The conclusion must be pithy and pointed.

[1] It is not pretended that this definition is in all respects satisfactory, but it gives a fair idea of the structure of Martial's epigrams.

Most of Martial's literary career fell in the reign of Domitian (81–96 A.D.), a time when it would be vain to look for an independent spirit in literature. Indeed, in the most glorious period of Roman letters, the age of Augustus, it is impossible entirely to acquit even Vergil and Horace of flattery of the powerful. The fact that Martial's character was not a strong one, that he felt no consciousness of a moral mission, that he was neither greatly better nor worse than people about him, that he reflects so thoroughly the spirit of his age, makes him more interesting to us and more instructive in his way than many a sterner author. Though not a professed moralist, he satirizes keenly the prevailing vices of his time. If ever there was a time when preaching was useless, it was then. The attempt to make wickedness odious was perhaps hopeless, but vice and folly could at least be made ridiculous. And so he, like his stronger and sterner contemporary,

Castigat ridendo mores.

Servility and indecency are the two chief faults of which our author stands accused. As to the first, it must be remembered that literary men in those days could not exist without the aid of wealthy patrons, and that these patrons demanded adulation as the recognized price of material support. Martial addressed many patrons, especially courtiers and officials of Domitian. His assiduous and importunate flattery of that emperor himself, as sickening as it was ingenious, seems to have fallen on deaf ears. The second charge

cannot be denied, but in fairness it must be said that this fault is confined to about one-tenth of his poems. And he is careful to assure us that his life was pure,

Lasciva est nobis pagina, vita proba.

M. Valerius Martialis, who, like Lucan, the Senecas, and Quintilian, was a Spaniard, was born at Bilbilis about 40 A.D. His birthday was March 1st. His parents were Valerius Fronto and Flacilla. He came to Rome when a young man, lived there thirty-four years, but returned to Spain in his old age, about 98 A.D., where he died not later than 104 A.D., as we learn from a letter of Pliny (III. 21). It is suspected that a poet who had been so fulsome a flatterer of Domitian, even though after the latter's death he had abundantly recanted, found the atmosphere of Trajan's court chilling in his declining years.

In the earlier part of his life in Rome our poet lived in a three-pair back. But success soon came to him, and the popularity of his poems, of which he often boasts with almost naïve satisfaction, was evidently immense. By the gifts of various rich friends he came apparently into the possession of rather comfortable means, and owned a little house in town, besides a small barren estate at Nomentum. Yet he seems to have been improvident, — not an uncommon fault of poets, — and, as his verses show, was an incorrigible beggar. Martial's character had no reserve. Had it been otherwise, though we might have respected him more, he would have interested us less. He appears

never to have felt any delicacy about asking for and accepting what he considered desirable. Pliny gave him money for his journey to Spain, in acknowledgment of some complimentary verses. From the *Domina Marcella*, whom some have taken for his wife, but who was probably only an enthusiastic admirer of his writings, he received the little estate in Spain, where he spent his last years making up the sleep he had lost at Rome.

It is doubtful whether he ever married, but from Titus, and again from Domitian, he received the *ius trium liberorum*, which does not imply that he had any children, or even a wife. By holding the office of tribune he attained equestrian rank.

Martial evidently "knew everybody." Those of his acquaintances who most interest us are the contemporary authors, whose names are well represented in the epigrams. Two are conspicuous by their absence, Tacitus and Statius. With the latter Martial is suspected of having been on no very good terms. Two men more uncongenial could hardly be imagined, and it is not improbable that some allusions to a long-winded epic poet were intended for Statius.

Martial's extant works are about 1550 epigrams in fifteen books. The first book, commonly called in modern times *Liber Spectaculorum*, was published in 80 A.D. in connection with the opening of the great Flavian amphitheatre, the Colosseum. Two others, assignable to 84 and 85 A.D., entitled respectively *Xenia* and *Apophorēta*, consist of epigrams in the original sense of the word, being distichs intended to be

inscribed on gifts sent at the Saturnalia. The other books, numbered consecutively I. to XII., are the *Libri Epigrammaton* proper, containing 1172 epigrams, from which those in this volume have been selected. They were published at intervals from 86 to 102 A.D. The first four books, after appearing separately, were published together, but there was no complete edition of the twelve books till after the poet's death.

The subjects of these poems are mostly taken from real life in its brilliant many-sided aspects at the capital of the world. Though there is a preponderance of the follies and vices of society among these themes, though the parasite, the debauchee, and the fortune-hunter appear unpleasantly often, yet the variety of subjects is so great that no other writer gives us as complete a picture of the social manners and the daily life of the Romans. And it is because he brings us into contact with ordinary human beings on the plane of every-day existence, that Martial has been from his day to ours one of the most popular of poets.

The epigrams being personal in form, it is necessary to observe that living persons were not mentioned by their real names except when spoken of with praise, or, at worst, with indifference. Otherwise names are used which suit the metres; sometimes repeatedly as types of certain characters, but usually quite without significance.

The chief characteristic of these poems is their wit, yet from reading all of them we get the impression that the author was a man of kindly disposition, and if without depth of nature, also without bitterness of

soul. His satire stings more than it wounds. And at his best he reveals a tenderness and pathos which prove a genuinely affectionate heart, or a refined delicacy which is hard to reconcile with coarseness of feeling.

Martial's versification is admirable, being clear, tasteful, and careful, without being pedantic or over precise. His favorite forms of metre are the elegiac distich :

See Allen and Greenough's Latin Grammar, § 363, and White's translation of Schmidt's Rhythmic and Metric, p. 39 and p. 93.

and the so-called hendecasyllabic verse (Phalaecian) :

Allen and Greenough, § 371, 11.
White's Schmidt, p. 72.

In the following selection all the pieces are in one of these metres except Nos. 3, 23, 28, 75, 84, and 106, which are in the trimeter scazon or choliambus :

Allen and Greenough, § 365, *c*.
White's Schmidt, p. 86.

In versification and in diction Martial was influenced by several of the earlier poets, but especially by Catullus and Ovid.

The manuscripts are numerous, but none are of earlier date than the ninth century. The first printed edition was published in 1602.

INDEX OF FIRST LINES.

EPIGRAMS OF MARTIAL.

1. (I. ii.)

The poet tells his readers of a "handy volume" edition of his epigrams.

Qui tecum cupis esse meos ubicunque libellos
  Et comites longae quaeris habere viae,
Hos eme, quos artat brevibus membrana tabellis:
  Scrinia da magnis, me manus una capit.
Ne tamen ignores ubi sim venalis, et erres
  Urbe vagus tota, me duce certus eris:
Libertum docti Lucensis quaere Secundum
  Limina post Pacis Palladiumque forum.

---

1. *Ubicunque* = *ubique.*

3. *Artat:* 'confines.'

3. *Membrana:* 'parchment;' small books were written on parchment pages instead of papyrus rolls.

3. *Tabellis:* 'pages.'

4. *Scrinia:* 'cases;' cylindrical boxes for holding rolls.

5. *Venalis:* 'for sale.'

7. *Lucensis:* he is not otherwise known.

7. *Secundum:* a bookseller near the street known as *Argiletum.*

8. *Limina* = *templum.* The temple of Peace was dedicated by Vespasian in 75 A.D.

8. *Palladiumque forum:* i.e., the *forum Nervae* or *Transitorium*, in which the chief building was a temple of Minerva (Pallas).

2. (I. III.)

The author to his book, eager to make its appearance in the world

Argiletanas mavis habitare tabernas,
  Cum tibi, parve liber, scrinia nostra vacent.
Nescis, heu, nescis dominae fastidia Romae:
  Crede mihi, nimium Martia turba sapit.
Maiores nusquam rhonchi: iuvenesque senesque
  Et pueri nasum rhinocerotis habent.
Audieris cum grande sophos, dum basia iactas,
  Ibis ab excusso missus in astra sago.
Sed tu ne totiens domini patiare lituras
  Neve notet lusus tristis harundo tuos,
Aetherias, lascive, cupis volitare per auras:
  I, fuge; sed poteras tutior esse domi.

1. *Argiletanas:* the Argiletum, a street which entered the Forum at its northeastern part near the temple of Janus, was the 'booksellers' row' of Rome.

1. *Tabernas:* 'shops.'

3. *Dominae fastidia Romae:* 'the whims of imperious Rome.'

4. *Martia turba:* the Romans claimed descent from Mars through his son, Romulus.

5. *Rhonchi:* 'sneers.'

6. *Nasum rhinocerotis:* i.e., turned up in scorn.

7. *Grande sophos:* 'the loud "bravo!"' (σοφῶς.)

7. *Basia iactas:* the performers in the arena acknowledged the plaudits of the audience by throwing kisses.

8. *Ab excusso missus. . . . sago:* 'tossed from a blanket' (cloak), alluding to the horseplay to which a young recruit was subjected by his comrades by way of "hazing."

9. *Lituras:* 'erasures,' 'corrections.'

10. *Tristis harundo:* 'the critical pen,' lit. 'severe reed.'

3. (I. x.)

On the suitor of an ugly and old but rich woman.

Petit Gemellus nuptias Maronillae
Et cupit et instat et precatur et donat.
Adeone pulchra est? Immo foedius nil est.
Quid ergo in illa petitur et placet? Tussit.

4. (I. xiii.)

A Brave Wife.

Casta suo gladium cum traderet Arria Paeto,
  Quem de visceribus strinxerat ipsa suis,
"Si qua fides, vulnus quod feci non dolet," inquit,
  "Sed quod tu facies, hoc mihi, Paete, dolet."

---

3. *Immo:* 'nay,' 'on the contrary.'

4. *Tussit:* 'she has a cough,' and will probably not live long.

5. *Arria:* wife of Caecina Paetus, who was ordered by the emperor Claudius, A.D. 42, to put an end to his life. He hesitated to do so until his wife set him the example, as here told.

7. *Si qua fides:* 'if you will believe me.'

5. (I. xv.)

To his old friend Julius Martialis, a very rich man, urging him to enjoy life before it should be too late.

O mihi post nullos, Iuli, memorande sodales,
Si quid longa fides canaque iura valent,
Bis iam paene tibi consul tricesimus instat,
Et numerat paucos vix tua vita dies.
Non bene distuleris videas quae posse negari,
Et solum hoc ducas, quod fuit, esse tuum.
Expectant curaeque catenatique labores,
Gaudia non remanent, sed fugitiva volant.
Haec utraque manu complexuque assere toto:
Saepe fluunt imo sic quoque lapsa sinu.
Non est, crede mihi, sapientis dicere "Vivam:"
Sera nimis vita est crastina: vive hodie.

---

1. *Post:* 'second to.'

2. *Canaque iura:* 'and friendship's claims grown gray with age.' Stephenson.

3. *Bis . . . . tricesimus:* 'the twice thirtieth consul,' i.e., your sixtieth year.

4. *Dies:* i.e., days to come.

5. *Non bene distuleris:* 'you do wrong in putting off.'

6. *Ducas:* 'you should consider.'

7. *Catenati:* 'unceasing;' lit. 'linked together.'

9. *Haec . . . toto:* 'seize them with both hands and with your strongest grasp.'

10. *Imo . . . sinu:* 'from the depths of one's pocket.'

12. *Crastina:* 'to-morrow's.'

6. (I. XXVII.)

Μισῶ μνάμονα συμπόταν.

Hesterna tibi nocte dixeramus,
Quincunces puto post decem peractos,
Cenares hodie, Procille, mecum.
Tu factam tibi rem statim putasti
Et non sobria verba subnotasti
Exemplo nimium periculoso:
Μισῶ μνάμονα συμπόταν, Procille.

7. (I. XXXII.)

To Sabidius.

Non amo te, Sabidi, nec possum dicere quare:
Hoc tantum possum dicere, non amo te.

This was parodied by Tom Brown (1663–1704).

"I do not love thee, Dr. Fell,
The reason why I cannot tell.
But this alone I know full well,
I do not love thee, Dr. Fell."

Dr. Fell was a bishop of Oxford, who died 1686.

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2. *Quincunces . . . . peractos:* 'after finishing ten cups,' each containing five *cyathi*, $\frac{5}{12}$ of a *sextarius*, or pint.

4. *Factam . . . rem:* 'that the matter was settled.'

5. *Subnotasti:* 'you jotted down.'

6. *Exemplo:* 'establishing a precedent.'

7. Μισῶ μνάμονα συμπόταν: 'I hate a boon-companion with a memory;' a Greek proverb.

8. (I. XXXIII.)

Insincere mourning.

Amissum non flet cum sola est Gellia patrem,
Si quis adest, iussae prosiliunt lacrimae.
Non luget quisquis laudari, Gellia, quaerit;
Ille dolet vere, qui sine teste dolet.

9. (I. XXXVIII.)

A plagiarist.

Quem recitas meus est, o Fidentine, libellus:
Sed male cum recitas, incipit esse tuus.

10. (I. XLII.)

The suicide of Porcia, daughter of Cato and wife of Brutus.

Coniugis audisset fatum cum Porcia Bruti
Et subtracta sibi quaereret arma dolor,
"Nondum scitis," ait, "mortem non posse negari?
Credideram, fatis hoc docuisse patrem."
Dixit et ardentes avido bibit ore favillas.
I nunc et ferrum, turba molesta, nega.

---

2. *Iussae . . . lacrimae:* 'the tears start at bidding.'

3. *Non luget:* 'he does not (really) mourn.'

7. *Fatum:* i.e., the suicide of Brutus, who fell on his sword after the battle of Philippi, 42 B.C.

8. *Subtracta:* 'removed' out of her reach.

10. *Fatis . . . patrem:* Cato had stabbed himself at Utica, after the defeat of his party by Julius Cæsar, 46 B.C.

11. *Favillas:* 'coals.'

12. *Turba molesta:* 'tiresome people.'

11. (I. XLVII.)

On a surgeon who turned undertaker.

Nuper erat medicus, nunc est vispillo Diaulus :
Quod vispillo facit, fecerat et medicus.

12. (I. LXXIX.)

Play on the meaning of the verb, *agere.*

Semper agis causas et res agis, Attale, semper :
Est, non est quod agas, Attale, semper agis.
Si res et causae desunt, agis, Attale, mulas.
Attale, ne quod agas desit, agas animam.

You act the pleader and you act the man
Of business; acting is your constant plan:
So prone to act, the coachman's part is tried;
Lest all parts fail thee, act the suicide.

L. H. S.

---

1. *Vispillo:* 'an undertaker,' 'corpse-bearer.'

3. *Agis causas:* 'you plead causes.'

3. *Res agis:* 'you transact business.'

4. *Est . . . . agas:* 'whether there is or is not anything for you to do.'

5. *Agis . . . mulas:* 'you drive mules.'

6. *Ne . . . desit;* 'that there may not be lacking.'

6. *Agas animam:* 'breathe out your life.'

13. (I. LXXXV.)

An auctioneer's blunder.

Venderet excultos colles cum praeco facetus
  Atque suburbani iugera pulchra soli,
" Errat," ait, " si quis Mario putat esse necesse
  Vendere: nil debet, fenerat immo magis."
" Quae ratio est igitur?" " Servos ibi perdidit omnes
  Et pecus et fructus, non amat inde locum."
Quis faceret pretium nisi qui sua perdere vellet
  Omnia? Sic Mario noxius haeret ager.

14. (I. LXXXVI.)

An unsociable next door neighbor.

Vicinus meus est manuque tangi
De nostris Novius potest fenestris.
Quis non invideat mihi putetque
Horis omnibus esse me beatum,
Iuncto cui liceat frui sodale?

---

1. *Excultos colles:* 'highly cultivated hills.'

1. *Praeco facetus:* 'a (would-be) witty auctioneer.'

3. *Mario:* the owner of the estate.

4. *Fenerat immo:* 'on the contrary he lends money.'

6. *Inde:* 'therefore.'

7. *Pretium:* 'a bid.'

8. *Noxius . . . ager:* 'his nuisance of a farm.'

13. *Iuncto . . . sodale:* 'a close companion;' with a play on the meaning of close.

Tam longe est mihi quam Terentianus,
Qui nunc Niliacam regit Syenen.
Non convivere, nec videre saltim,
Non audire licet, nec urbe tota
Quisquam est tam prope tam proculque nobis.
Migrandum est mihi longius vel illi.
Vicinus Novio vel inquilinus
Sit, si quis Novium videre non vult.

My neighbor Hunks's house and mine
Are built so near they almost join;
The windows, too, project so much,
That through the casements we may touch.
Nay, I'm so happy, most men think,
To live so near a man of chink,
That they are apt to envy me,
For keeping such good company:
But he's as far from me, I vow,
As London is from good Lord Howe;
For when old Hunks I chance to meet,
Or one or both must quit the street,
Thus he who would not see old Roger,
Must be his neighbor or his lodger.

Swift.

---

2. *Niliacam . . . Syenen:* 'Syene on the Nile,' a frontier post of the empire held by a garrison.

5. *Tam . . . proculque:* 'so near and yet so far.'

7. *Inquilinus:* 'an inmate of the same house.'

15. (I. LXXXVIII.)

Epitaph for a favorite slave.

Alcime, quem raptum domino crescentibus annis
  Lavicana levi caespite velat humus,
Accipe non Pario nutantia pondera saxo,
  Quae cineri vanus dat ruitura labor,
Sed faciles buxos et opacas palmitis umbras
  Quaeque virent lacrimis roscida prata meis.
Accipe, care puer, nostri monimenta doloris:
  Hic tibi perpetuo tempore vivet honor.
Cum mihi supremos Lachesis perneverit annos,
  Non aliter cineres mando iacere meos.

---

2. *Lavicana:* 'beside the road to Labicum.'

2. *Caespite:* 'turf.'

3. *Pario:* Paros was an island in the Aegean, famous for its marble.

3. *Nutantia pondera:* 'top-heavy masses.'

4. *Ruitura:* 'destined to fall.'

5. *Faciles buxos:* 'simple box.'

5. *Palmitis:* 'vine;' genitive.

6. *Quaeque . . . meis:* 'and the flowers which bloom in the meadows bedewed with my tears.'

9. *Lachĕsis:* One of the Fates.

9. *Perneverit:* 'has spun out.'

10. *Non aliter:* i.e., with no more elaborate tomb.

16. (I. ci.)

On the death of Demetrius, his faithful amanuensis.

Illa manus quondam studiorum fida meorum
Et felix domino notaque Caesaribus,
Destituit primos viridis Demetrius annos:
Quarta tribus lustris addita messis erat.
Ne tamen ad Stygias famulus descenderet umbras,
Ureret implicitum cum scelerata lues,
Cavimus et domini ius omne remisimus aegro:
Munere dignus erat convaluisse meo.
Sensit deficiens sua praemia meque patronum
Dixit ad infernas liber iturus aquas.

---

1. *Manus:* the hand which had written his poems from dictation.

4. *Quarta . . . messis:* 'fourth harvest,' 'fourth summer;' a *lustrum* = 5 years; he was 3 × 5 + 4 = 19 years old.

5. *Famulus:* 'as a slave.'

6. *Ureret . . . lues:* 'when the fell disease which had seized him was withering him.'

7. *Cavimus:* 'I took care.'

7. *Remisimus:* 'I surrendered,' 'renounced.'

8. *Munere . . . meo:* 'he deserved to get well by my kindness.'

9. *Patronum:* when a slave was freed his *dominus* became his *patronus*.

17. (I. CIII.)

A man who wished to be rich, but when his wish was granted, turned out a miser.

"Si dederint superi decies mihi milia centum,"
Dicebas nondum, Scaevola, iustus eques,
"Qualiter o vivam, quam large quamque beate!"
Riserunt faciles et tribuere dei.
Sordidior multo post hoc toga, paenula peior,
Calceus est sarta terque quaterque cute:
Deque decem plures semper servantur olivae,
Explicat et cenas unica mensa duas,
In ius, o fallax atque infitiator, eamus:
Aut vive aut decies, Scaevola, redde deis.

1. *Decies . . . centum:* 'a million sesterces.'

2. *Nondum . . . iustus eques:* 'when you were not yet a full knight;' i.e., did not possess the equestrian fortune of 400,000 sesterces.

4. *Faciles:* 'indulgent.'

4. *Tribuere:* 'granted your wish.'

5. *Sordidior:* 'shabbier.'

5. *Paenula:* 'cloak;' worn over the toga.

6. *Calceus:* 'shoe.'

6. *Sarta:* 'patched,' 'cobbled.'

6. *Cute:* 'hide,' 'leather.'

7. *Plures:* 'more than half.'

8. *Explicat . . . duas:* 'furnishes two repasts.'

8. *Mensa:* 'one meal;' one setting of the table.

9. *In ius:* 'to court,' 'to law.'

9. *Infitiator:* 'you liar.'

10. *Decies:* sc. *centena milia:* 'your million.'

18. (I. cix.)

On a pet lap-dog.

Issa est passere nequior Catulli,
Issa est purior osculo columbae,
Issa est blandior omnibus puellis,
Issa est carior Indicis lapillis,
Issa est deliciae catella Publi.
Hanc tu, si queritur, loqui putabis;
Sentit tristitiamque gaudiumque.
Collo nixa cubat capitque somnos,
Ut suspiria nulla sentiantur.
Hanc ne lux rapiat suprema totam,
Picta Publius exprimit tabella,
In qua tam similem videbis Issam,
Ut sit tam similis sibi nec ipsa.
Issam denique pone cum tabella:
Aut utramque putabis esse veram,
Aut utramque putabis esse pictam.

1. *Passere:* 'sparrow;' alluding to Catullus's famous poem on the death of Lesbia's sparrow.

1. *Nequior:* 'more playful.'

3. *Blandior:* 'more winsome.'

4. *Lapillis:* 'gems.'

5. *Deliciae:* 'pet.'

5. *Catella:* 'little dog.'

8. *Collo nixa:* 'resting on his neck.'

11. *Picta . . . tabella:* 'is painting her portrait.'

19. (II. xvi.)

On one who feigned illness in order to display his handsome bed-coverings.

Zoilus aegrotat: faciunt hanc stragula febrem
Si fuerit sanus, coccina quid facient?
Quid torus a Nilo, quid Sidone tinctus olenti?
Ostendit stultas quid nisi morbus opes?
Quid tibi cum medicis? Dimitte Machaonas omnes.
Vis fieri sanus? Stragula sume mea.

20. (II. xxx.)

To a friend who gave only advice, when asked to lend money.

Mutua viginti sestertia forte rogabam,
Quae vel donanti non grave munus erat.
Quippe rogabatur felixque vetusque sodalis
Et cuius laxas arca flagellat opes.

---

1. *Zoilus:* the name is probably fictitious. The real Zoilus was a Greek grammarian, in the time of Philip of Macedon, whose name became the synonym for malignant carping criticism; we have the word "Zoilism" in this sense.

1. *Stragula:* 'coverlets;' a wish to display them makes him stay in bed.

2. *Coccina:* 'scarlet draperies.'

3. *Sidone . . . olenti:* 'Sidonian perfume.'

5. *Machāonas:* i e., physicians; Machāon was the son of Aesculapius.

7. *Mutua:* 'a loan;' adjective agreeing with *sestertia*.

8. *Vel donanti:* 'even if he had given it outright.'

8. *Munus:* 'burden,' 'tax.'

9. *Felix:* 'prosperous.'

10. *Cuius . . . opes:* 'whose chest can hardly contain his overflowing wealth.'

Is mihi "Dives eris, si causas egeris" inquit.
Quod peto da, Gai: non peto consilium.

21. (II. XLIV.)

A crafty device of a usurer to avoid being asked for a loan.

Emi seu puerum togamve pexam
Seu tres, ut puta, quattuorve libras,
Sextus protinus ille fenerator,
Quem nostis veterem meum sodalem,
Ne quid forte petam timet cavetque,
Et secum, sed ut audiam, susurrat:
"Septem milia debeo Secundo,
Phoebo quattuor, undecim Phileto,
Et quadrans mihi nullus est in arca."
O grande ingenium mei sodalis!
Durum est, Sexte, negare, cum rogaris,
Quanto durius, antequam rogeris!

22. (II. LVIII.)

Poor but independent.

Pexatus pulchre rides mea, Zoile, trita.
Sunt haec trita quidem, Zoile, sed mea sunt.

---

3. *Emi:* 'I have bought.'

3. *Puerum* 'a slave.'

3. *Pexam:* 'with long nap.'

4. *Ut puta:* 'for instance.'

4. *Libras:* 'pounds;' say, of frankincense, or pepper.

5. *Fenerator:* 'money lender.'

8. *Susurrat:* 'mutters,' 'whispers.'

11. *Quadrans:* 'farthing,' 'copper;' the fourth part of an as.

15. *Pexatus:* 'wearing a toga with long nap,' 'sleek,' 'smartly dressed.'

15. *Mea . . . trita:* 'my worn-out clothes.'

15. *Zoile:* see note on p. 14, l. 1.

23. (II. lxv.)

Ironical condolence with a man who had just lost his rich wife.

Cur tristiorem cernimus Saleianum ?
"An causa levis est ?" inquit, "extuli uxorem."
O grande fati crimen ! o gravem casum !
Illa, illa dives mortua est Secundilla,
Centena decies quae tibi dedit dotis ?
Nollem accidisset hoc tibi, Saleiane.

24. (II. xc.)

To Quintilian, the great rhetorician.

Quintiliane, vagae moderator summe iuventae,
Gloria Romanae, Quintiliane, togae,
Vivere quod propero pauper nec inutilis annis,
Da veniam : properat vivere nemo satis.
Differat hoc, patrios optat qui vincere census
Atriaque inmodicis artat imaginibus.
Me focus et nigros non indignantia fumos
Tecta iuvant et fons vivus et herba rudis.
Sit mihi verna satur, sit non doctissima coniunx,
Sit nox cum somno, sit sine lite dies.

---

2. *Extuli:* 'I have buried.'

5. *Centena decies;* sc. *milia:* 'a million sesterces.'

5. *Dotis:* 'of dower.'

7. *Vagae:* 'wayward.'

8. *Togae:* 'gown,' i.e., the lawyer's robe, the 'bar,' as we should say.

10. *Vivere:* 'to enjoy life.'

11. *Differat:* 'let him postpone.'

11. *Patrios . . . census:* 'who wishes to be richer than his father.'

12. *Inmodicis:* 'innumerable.'

12. *Artat:* 'crowds.'

12. *Imaginibus:* i.e., of ancestors who have held curule offices.

14. *Rudis:* 'natural.'

15. *Verna:* 'a (homeborn) slave.'

15. *Satur:* 'well fed.'

25. (II. xci.)

To the Emperor Domitian asking for the *ius trium liberorum.*

Rerum certa salus, terrarum gloria, Caesar,
Sospite quo magnos credimus esse deos,
Si festinatis totiens tibi lecta libellis
Detinuere oculos carmina nostra tuos,
Quod fortuna vetat fieri, permitte videri,
Natorum genitor credar ut esse trium.
Haec, si displicui, fuerint solacia nobis ;
Haec fuerint nobis praemia, si placui.

26. (II. xcii.)

On receiving from the Emperor Domitian the *ius trium liberorum.*

Natorum mihi ius trium roganti
Musarum pretium dedit mearum
Solus qui poterat. Valebis, uxor.
Non debet domini perire munus.

---

2. *Sospite quo . . . credimus:* 'whose preservation is to us a proof.'

3. *Festinatis:* 'hastily written.'

7. *Displicui:* 'if I have failed to please you by my poetry.'

9. *Natorum . . . ius trium:* the privileges of a father of three children.

11. *Solus:* i.e., the emperor.

11. *Valebis:* 'good-by to you.'

12. *Non debet . . . perire:* 'should not be wasted ;' i.e., there is no need for him to have the actual family.

27. (III. xii.)

A stingy host, who gave his guests nothing to eat.

Unguentum, fateor, bonum dedisti
Convivis here, sed nihil scidisti.
Res salsa est bene olere et esurire.
Qui non cenat et unguitur, Fabulle,
Hic vere mihi mortuus videtur.

28. (III. xxv.)

On a frigid rhetorician

Si temperari balneum cupis fervens,
Faustine, quod vix Iulianus intraret,
Roga, lavetur, rhetorem Sabineium.
Neronianas hic refrigerat thermas.

---

1. *Unguentum:* 'ointment,' used after the bath which was taken before dinner.

2. *Convivis:* 'guests.'

2. *Here:* 'yesterday.'

2. *Scidisti:* 'you carved.'

3. *Res salsa:* 'a droll thing.'

3. *Esurire:* 'to go hungry.'

5. *Mortuus:* the dead were anointed and given a mock feast.

6. *Temperari:* 'to be cooled.'

8. *Lavetur:* 'to bathe in it.'

9. *Neronianas . . . thermas:* famous public baths built by Nero.

29. (III. xxxviii.)

The difficulty of making a living at Rome.

Quae te causa trahit vel quae fiducia Romam,
Sexte ? quid aut speras aut petis inde ? refer.
"Causas," inquis, "agam Cicerone disertior ipso
Atque erit in triplici par mihi nemo foro."
Egit Atestinus causas et Civis — utrumque
Noras — ; sed neutri pensio tota fuit.
"Si nihil hinc veniet, pangentur carmina nobis :
Audieris, dices esse Maronis opus."
Insanis : omnes gelidis quicunque lacernis
Sunt ibi, Nasones Vergiliosque vides.
"Atria magna colam." Vix tres aut quattuor ista
Res aluit, pallet cetera turba fame.
"Quid faciam ? suade : nam certum est vivere Romae."
Si bonus es, casu vivere, Sexte, potes.

4. *Triplici . . . foro* : i.e., Forum Romanum, Forum Julii, and Forum Augusti, where the law courts sat.

6. *Pensio* : 'the rent of their lodgings.'

7. *Pangentur* : 'shall be composed.'

8. *Maronis* : i.e., Vergil.

9. *Gelidis . . . lacernis* : 'in threadbare (chilly) cloaks.'

10. *Nasones* : i.e., Ovids.

11. *Atria magna* : 'the great houses.'

11. *Colam* : 'I will pay court to.'

13. *Certum est* : 'I'm determined.'

30. (III. xliv.)

To a poetical bore.

Occurrit tibi nemo quod libenter,
Quod, quacumque venis, fuga est et ingens
Circa te, Ligurine, solitudo,
Quid sit, scire cupis? Nimis poeta es.
Hoc valde vitium periculosum est.
Non tigris catulis citata raptis,
Non dipsas medio perusta sole,
Nec sic scorpios improbus timetur.
Nam tantos, rogo, quis ferat labores?
Et stanti legis et legis sedenti,
In thermas fugio: sonas ad aurem.
Piscinam peto: non licet natare.
Ad cenam propero: tenes euntem.
Ad cenam venio: fugas sedentem.
Lassus dormio: suscitas iacentem.
Vis quantum facias mali, videre?
Vir iustus, probus, innocens timeris.

---

1. *Quod:* construe with *quid sit*, line 4, 'what's the reason why?' etc.

6. *Citata:* 'in swift pursuit' of the hunter who has stolen her whelps.

7. *Dipsas:* a Libyan serpent, so called because its bite caused thirst (δίψα).

8. *Scorpios:* nominative.

12. *Piscinam:* 'the swimming tank.'

31. (III. xlix.)

A host who gave bad wine to his guests, but drank good wine himself.

Veientana mihi misces, ubi Massica potas :
Olfacere haec malo pocula, quam bibere.

32. (III. lvi.)

The scarcity of fresh water at Ravenna.

Sit cisterna mihi, quam vinea, malo Ravennae,
Cum possim multo vendere pluris aquam.

33. (III. lvii.)

The same subject.

Callidus imposuit nuper mihi copo Ravennae :
Cum peterem mixtum, vendidit ille merum.

---

1. *Veientana :* one of the cheapest sorts of wine ; Veii was twelve miles N. N. W. of Rome.

1. *Massica :* the *mons Massicus* in Campania produced a much-prized wine.

3. *Sit . . . mihi . . . malo :* 'I would rather have.'

3. *Ravennae :* Ravenna, being built on piles in a lagoon, was destitute of fresh water, which had to be brought from a distance.

5. *Callidus :* 'swindling.'

5. *Copo :* 'innkeeper.'

6. *Mixtum :* 'wine and water.'

6. *Merum :* 'neat wine.'

34. (III. LX.)

Comparison of the patron's dinner with that which he gives his client.

Cum vocer ad cenam non iam venalis ut ante,
  Cur mihi non eadem, quae tibi, cena datur ?
Ostrea tu sumis stagno saturata Lucrino,
  Sugitur inciso mitulus ore mihi :
Sunt tibi boleti, fungos ego sumo suillos :
  Res tibi cum rhombo est, at mihi cum sparulo :
Aureus inmodicis turtur te clunibus implet,
  Ponitur in cavea mortua pica mihi.
Cur sine te ceno, cum tecum, Pontice, cenem ?
  Sportula quod non est, prosit : edamus idem.

---

1. *Non iam venalis :* 'no longer bought ;' for a time in Domitian's reign, patrons were required to entertain their clients at dinner (*cena recta*) instead of giving them the *sportula* of 100 *quadrantes.* It is this clients' dinner about the shabbiness of which this complaint is made.

3. *Ostrea :* 'oysters.'

3. *Stagno . . . Lucrino:* 'in the Lucrine lake,' near Baiae in Campania.

3. *Saturata :* 'fattened.'

4. *Inciso . . . ore:* 'through a hole cut in the shell,' or 'with my mouth cut' by the rough shell.

4. *Mitulus :* 'a mussel.'

5. *Boleti:* 'mushrooms ;' choice variety.

5. *Fungos . . . suillos :* 'hog-mushrooms.'

6. *Rhombo :* 'turbot.'

6. *Sparulo :* an inferior fish, of uncertain species.

7. *Aureus :* 'splendid.'

7. *Inmodicis . . . clunibus :* 'with enormously fat thighs.'

7. *Turtur :* 'turtle dove.'

8. *Cavea :* 'cage.'

8. *Pica :* 'magpie.'

10. *Prosit :* 'let it be of some advantage to me.'

35. (III. LXVI.)

The murder of Cicero was a worse crime than that of Pompey.

Par scelus admisit Phariis Antonius armis:
  Abscidit vultus ensis uterque sacros.
Illud, laurigeros ageres cum laeta triumphos,
  Hoc tibi, Roma, caput, cum loquereris, erat.
Antoni tamen est peior, quam causa Pothini:
  Hic facinus domino praestitit, ille sibi.

36. (IV. II)

A snow-storm at the amphitheatre.

Spectabat modo solus inter omnes
Nigris munus Horatius lacernis,
Cum plebs et minor ordo maximusque
Sancto cum duce candidus sederet.
Toto nix cecidit repente caelo:
Albis spectat Horatius lacernis.

---

1. *Phariis . . . armis:* Pharos was an island in front of Alexandria. The reference is to the murder of Pompey as he was about to land in Egypt.

1. *Antonius:* it was Mark Antony who put Cicero's name on the proscription list and caused him to be murdered.

2. *Vultus:* 'heads.'

3. *Illud:* i.e., Pompey.

4. *Hoc:* i.e., Cicero.

5. *Pothini:* the guardian of the young king Ptolemy, by whose order Pompey was assassinated.

8. *Nigris . . . lacernis:* 'in a black cloak.' It was contrary to etiquette to appear in black at public games.

8. *Munus:* 'exhibition.'

9. *Minor:* sc. *equestris.*

9. *Maximus:* sc. *senatorius.*

10. *Sancto . . . duce:* the Emperor Domitian.

37. (IV. viii.)

The routine of daily life at Rome incidentally described in a request to Euphemus to present the fourth book of Epigrams to the emperor.

Prima salutantes atque altera conterit hora,
  Exercet raucos tertia causidicos,
In quintam varios extendit Roma labores,
  Sexta quies lassis, septima finis erit,
Sufficit in nonam nitidis octava palaestris,
  Imperat extructos frangere nona toros :
Hora libellorum decima est, Eupheme, meorum,
  Temperat ambrosias cum tua cura dapes
Et bonus aetherio laxatur nectare Caesar
  Ingentique tenet pocula parca manu.
Tunc admitte iocos : gressu timet ire licenti
  Ad matutinum nostra Thalia Iovem.

---

1. *Salutantes :* clients paying calls on their patrons.

1. *Altera :* 'second.'

2. *Raucos ;* proleptic, 'till they grow hoarse.'

2. *Causidicos :* 'pleaders,' 'barristers.'

4. *Quies :* the noontide siesta (*sexta*).

4. *Finis :* i.e., of the active business of the day.

5. *Nitidis :* 'glistening' with the oil rubbed on the bodies of the athletes.

6. *Extructos . . . toros :* 'piled up cushions.'

6. *Frangere :* 'press.'

7. *Libellorum :* 'little books,' 'effusions.'

7. *Eupheme :* Domitian's 'chief butler.'

8. *Temperat :* 'orders,' 'oversees.'

9. *Bonus :* 'kindly.'

9. *Aetherio :* 'heavenly.'

10. *Ingenti :* 'mighty.'

12. *Matutinum :* 'in the morning.'

12. *Thalīa :* the comic Muse.

12. *Iovem :* i.e., Domitian.

38. (IV. x.)

Martial sends a book of his poetry to his rich friend Faustinus, who wrote verses himself.

Dum novus est nec adhuc rasa mihi fronte libellus,
  Pagina dum tangi non bene sicca timet,
I puer et caro perfer leve munus amico,
  Qui meruit nugas primus habere meas.
Curre, sed instructus: comitetur Punica librum
  Spongea: muneribus convenit illa meis.
Non possunt nostros multae, Faustine, liturae
  Emendare iocos: una litura potest.

---

1. *Rasa:* 'smoothed.' This was done with pumice stone. The *frons*, edge or end of the roll, was then usually colored.

4. *Nugas:* 'trifles.'

5. *Instructus:* 'provided,' 'equipped.'

6. *Spongea:* 'a sponge;' to erase the writing.

7. *Liturae:* 'erasures,' 'corrections.'

39. (IV. XIII.)

Good wishes on the marriage of Pudens and Claudia

Claudia, Rufe, meo nubit Peregrina Pudenti :
Macte esto taedis, o Hymenaee, tuis.
Tam bene rara suo miscentur cinnama nardo,
Massica Theseis tam bene vina favis ;
Nec melius teneris iunguntur vitibus ulmi,
Nec plus lotos aquas, litora myrtus amat.
Candida perpetuo reside, Concordia, lecto,
Tamque pari semper sit Venus aequa iugo :
Diligat illa senem quondam, sed et ipsa marito
Tum quoque, cum fuerit, non videatur anus.

1. *Claudia . . . Pudenti :* there is no reason except the names for identifying these persons with those of the same names mentioned by St. Paul, 2 Tim. iv. 21.

2. *Macte . . . tuis:* 'a blessing on thy torch.'

3. *Cinnama nardo:* spikenard and cinnamon oil were often mixed in ointments.

4. *Massica . . . favis:* the best wine and the best honey, i.e., that of Hymettus in Attica, the land of Theseus ; this mixture of wine and honey was called *mulsum.* The foreign honey may delicately allude to the bride (*peregrina*) ; the Massic being a native wine (Campanian).

5. *Vitibus ulmi:* it was customary to train vines on elms.

7. *Candida:* 'white robed.'

8. *Pari . . . iugo:* 'well-matched couple.'

10. *Anus:* 'an old woman.'

40. (IV. XVIII.)

On the death of a boy killed by an icicle which fell on his throat as he was looking up.

Qua vicina pluit Vipsanis porta columnis
  Et madet assiduo lubricus imbre lapis,
In iugulum pueri, qui roscida tecta subibat,
  Decidit hiberno praegravis unda gelu:
Cumque peregisset miseri crudelia fata,
  Tabuit in calido vulnere mucro tener.
Quid non saeva sibi voluit Fortuna licere?
  Aut ubi non mors est, si iugulatis aquae?

---

1. *Pluit:* 'drips,' i.e., from the aqueduct which passed over it.

1. *Vipsanis . . . columnis:* i.e., a portico built by Vipsanius Agrippa.

1. *Porta:* 'arch.'

3. *Roscida:* 'dewy,' 'dripping.

4. *Hiberno . . . gelu:* 'water very heavy with winter's cold,' i.e., an icicle.

6. *Tabuit:* 'melted.'

6. *Mucro tener:* 'the delicate point.'

8. *Iugulatis:* 'you cut our throats.'

8. *Aquae:* vocative.

41. (IV. xxx.)

A warning to a fisherman not to molest the fish in the lake of Baiae, because they were the pets of Domitian.

Baiano procul a lacu, monemus,
Piscator, fuge, ne nocens recedas.
Sacris piscibus hae natantur undae,
Qui norunt dominum manumque lambunt
Illam, qua nihil est in orbe maius.
Quid, quod nomen habent et ad magistri
Vocem quisque sui venit citatus?
Hoc quondam Libys impius profundo,
Dum praedam calamo tremente ducit,
Raptis luminibus repente caecus
Captum non potuit videre piscem,
Et nunc sacrilegos perosus hamos
Baianos sedet ad lacus rogator.
At tu, dum potes, innocens recede
Iactis simplicibus cibis in undas,
Et pisces venerare delicatos.

1. *Baiano:* i.e., the *lacus Lucrinus.*

2. *Nocens = sacrilegus.*

4. *Dominum:* i.e., the emperor.

5. *Maius:* 'mightier.'

7. *Citatus:* 'when summoned.'

8. *Libys:* 'a Libyan.'

9. *Calamo tremente:* 'with quivering rod' (reed).

10. *Raptis luminibus:* 'deprived of his sight.'

13. *Rogator:* 'a beggar.'

15. *Simplicibus:* 'guileless,' concealing no hook.

16. *Pisces . . . delicatos:* 'pet fishes.'

42. (IV. LIX.)

A viper inclosed in amber.

Flentibus Heliadum ramis dum vipera repit,
Fluxit in obstantem sucina gutta feram :
Quae dum miratur pingui se rore teneri,
Concreto riguit vincta repente gelu.
Ne tibi regali placeas, Cleopatra, sepulcro,
Vipera si tumulo nobiliore iacet.

43. (IV. LXXII.)

One who asked for a gift of the poet's works is informed where he could buy them.

Exigis, ut donem nostros tibi, Quinte, libellos.
Non habeo, sed habet bibliopola Tryphon.
"Aes dabo pro nugis et emam tua carmina sanus?
Non," inquis, "faciam tam fatue." Nec ego.

---

1. *Heliadum:* 'poplars,' into which the daughters of the Sun (Helios) were changed when they wept for the death of their brother Phaethon, their tears being changed to amber.

2. *Obstantem:* 'which came in its way.'

2. *Sucina gutta:* 'a drop of amber.'

3. *Pingui . . . rore:* 'the sticky fluid.'

4. *Concreto . . . gelu:* 'by the congealing of the mass.'

5. *Ne tibi . . . placeas:* 'do not be proud.'

8. *Bibliopola:* 'bookseller.'

9. *Aes . . . fatue:* these are the supposed words of Quintus.

9. *Nugis:* 'trash.'

9. *Sanus:* 'while in my right mind.'

44. (IV. LXXVII.)

The poet wishes for riches in order to drive an envious acquaintance to despair.

Nunquam divitias deos rogavi
Contentus modicis meoque laetus.
Paupertas, veniam dabis, recede.
Causa est quae subiti novique voti?
Pendentem volo Zoilum videre.

45. (IV. LXXIX.)

The poet sells his Tiburtine villa to Matho, who had been a constant guest there.

Hospes eras nostri semper, Matho, Tiburtini.
Hoc emis. Imposui: rus tibi vendo tuum.

46. (IV. LXXXV.)

Ponticus is accused of drinking better wine than he gives to his guests.

Nos bibimus vitro, tu murra, Pontice. Quare?
Prodat perspicuus ne duo vina calix.

---

3. *Veniam dabis:* 'if you will be so good.'

5. *Pendentem:* 'hang himself for envy.'

5. *Zoilum:* see note on p. 14, l. 1.

7. *Imposui:* 'I have cheated you.'

8. *Vitro:* 'from glass.'

8. *Murra:* we speak of "myrrhine" vases, leaving unsettled the question whether *murra* was a natural stone (agate) or an artificial product. Probably it was the former, and was imitated in glass.

9. *Perspicuus:* 'transparent.'

9. *Calix:* 'cup.'

47. (IV. LXXXIX.)

Enough, little book!

Ohe, iam satis est, ohe, libelle,
Iam pervenimus usque ad umbilicos.
Tu procedere adhuc et ire quaeris,
Nec summa potes in schida teneri,
Sic tanquam tibi res peracta non sit,
Quae prima quoque pagina peracta est.
Iam lector queriturque deficitque,
Iam librarius hoc et ipse dicit
"Ohe, iam satis est, ohe, libelle."

48. (V. IX.)

How the poet, being a little indisposed, was made really ill by the visit of a physician and his pupils.

Languebam: sed tu comitatus protinus ad me
  Venisti centum, Symmache, discipulis.
Centum me tetigere manus aquilone gelatae:
  Non habui febrem, Symmache, nunc habeo.

---

1. *Ohe:* 'hold up!'

2. *Umbilicos:* 'bosses,' these were the knobs at the ends of the rod on which the MS. was rolled, or sometimes the ends of the rod were hollowed out and painted, forming an ornamental centre to the circular end of the book.

3. *Adhuc:* 'still further.'

4. *Schida:* 'page;' the long papyrus roll was made of strips pasted together, called *schidae, scidae.* or *schedae.*

8. *Librarius:* 'the copyist.'

10. *Languebam:* 'I was feeling rather poorly.'

12. *Me tetigere:* i.e., felt my pulse.

49. (V. xxix.)

An ungallant address to a plain woman.

Si quando leporem mittis mihi, Gellia, dicis :
" Formosus septem, Marce, diebus eris."
Si non derides, si verum, lux mea, narras,
Edisti nunquam, Gellia, tu leporem.

50. (V. xxxiv.)

On the death of a little pet slave girl under six years of age, the poet commends her soul to his parents, who are already in the lower world.

Hanc tibi, Fronto pater, genetrix Flaccilla, puellam
  Oscula commendo deliciasque meas,
Parvula ne nigras horrescat Erotion umbras
  Oraque Tartarei prodigiosa canis.
Inpletura fuit sextae modo frigora brumae,

---

1. *Leporem:* 'a hare;' eating a hare was popularly supposed to make one good-looking for seven or nine days afterward. Cf. *lepor* and *lepus*.

2. *Septem . . . diebus:* 'for seven days;' duration of time.

3. *Derides:* 'you are jesting.'

3. *Lux mea:* ironical, of course.

5. *Fronto . . . Flaccilla:* the parents of Martial.

6. *Oscula . . . deliciasque:* 'my pet and my delight.'

7. *Ne . . . horrescat:* 'may not dread.'

7. *Erotion:* the little girl's name.

8. *Oraque*, etc.: referring to Cerberus, the three-headed dog which guarded the entrance to Hades.

9. *Inpletura fuit:* 'she would have completed,' (if she had lived).

9. *Brumae:* 'winter.'

Vixisset totidem ni minus illa dies.
Inter tam veteres ludat lasciva patronos
Et nomen blaeso garriat ore meum.
Mollia non rigidus caespes tegat ossa, nec illi,
Terra, gravis fueris: non fuit illa tibi.

51. (V. xlii.)

A paradox; a man's sure wealth is what he gives away.

Callidus effracta nummos fur auferet arca,
Prosternet patrios impia flamma lares:
Debitor usuram pariter sortemque negabit,
Non reddet sterilis semina iacta seges:
Dispensatorem fallax spoliabit amica,
Mercibus extructas obruet unda rates.
Extra fortunam est, si quid donatur amicis:
Quas dederis, solas semper habebis opes.

52. (V. xlvii.)

A needy parasite.

Nunquam se cenasse domi Philo iurat, et hoc est:
Non cenat, quotiens nemo vocavit eum.

---

1. *Totidem:* i.e., six.
2. *Lasciva:* 'playful.'
3. *Blaeso garriat ore:* 'let her lisp with stammering tongue.'
4. *Caespes:* 'sod.'
4. *Nec illi*, etc:
"Lie lightly on her, Earth, for she
No heavy step e'er laid on thee."
8. *Usuram . . . sortemque:* 'interest and principal.'
9. *Iacta:* 'sowed.'
10. *Dispensatorem:* 'steward.'

53. (V. LII.)

To a person who constantly reminds the poet of his favors.

Quae mihi praestiteris memini semperque tenebo.
Cur igitur taceo, Postume? Tu loqueris.
Incipio quotiens alicui tua dona referre,
Protinus exclamat "Dixerat ipse mihi."
Non belle quaedam faciunt duo: sufficit unus
Huic operi: si vis, ut loquar, ipse tace.
Crede mihi, quamvis ingentia, Postume, dona
Auctoris pereunt garrulitate sui.

54. (V. LVIII.)

To a procrastinator.

Cras te victurum, cras dicis, Postume, semper.
Dic mihi, cras istud, Postume, quando venit?
Quam longe cras istud, ubi est, aut unde petendum?
Numquid apud Parthos Armeniosque latet?
Iam cras istud habet Priami vel Nestoris annos.
Cras istud quanti, dic mihi, possit emi?
Cras vives? Hodie iam vivere, Postume, serum est:
Ille sapit, quisquis, Postume, vixit heri.

---

1. *Quae . . . praestiteris*: 'what services you have rendered.'

8. *Pereunt*: 'they are rendered valueless.'

9. *Cras*: 'to-morrow.'

11. *Quam longe*: 'how far away?'

12. *Numquid* = *num*.

14. *Quanti*: genitive of price.

16. *Heri*: 'yesterday.'

55. (V. LXXVII.)

A servile listener to the talk of great men.

Narratur belle quidam dixisse, Marulle,
Qui te ferre oleum dixit in auricula.

56. (V. LXXIX.)

A mean man who made a silly display of his wealth.

Undeciens una surrexti, Zoile, cena,
Et mutata tibi est synthesis undeciens,
Sudor inhaereret madida ne veste retentus
Et laxam tenuis laederet aura cutem.
Quare ego non sudo, qui tecum, Zoile, ceno?
Frigus enim magnum synthesis una facit.

57. (V. LXXXI.)

To him that hath shall be given.

Semper pauper eris, si pauper es, Aemiliane.
Dantur opes nulli nunc nisi divitibus.

---

2. *Oleum*: 'oil;' he held his head on one side as if afraid of spilling oil from his ear.

3. *Zoile*: see note on p. 14, l. 1.

4. *Synthesis*: 'dinner dress,' worn only in the house except during the Saturnalia.

6. *Laxam*: 'with the pores open.'

58. (VI. xxxii.)

The suicide of Otho, after the defeat of his army by the Vitellians at Bedriacum, 69 A.D.

Cum dubitaret adhuc belli civilis Enyo
  Forsitan et posset vincere mollis Otho,
Damnavit multo staturum sanguine Martem
  Et fodit certa pectora tota manu.
Sit Cato, dum vivit, sane vel Caesare maior:
  Dum moritur, numquid maior Othone fuit?

59. (VI. xliii.)

The poet writes from his villa at Nomentum to his rich friend Castricus at Baiae.

Dum tibi felices indulgent, Castrice, Baiae
  Canaque sulphureis nympha natatur aquis,
Me Nomentani confirmant otia ruris
  Et casa iugeribus non onerosa suis.
Hoc mihi Baiani soles mollisque Lucrinus,

---

1. *Enȳō:* goddess of war.

2. *Mollis:* 'effeminate.'

3. *Damnavit:* 'he put an end to.'

3. *Staturum:* 'likely to cost.'

3. *Martem:* 'war;' i.e., the contest against Vitellius.

5. *Sit Cato:* 'grant that Cato was,' etc. Cato killed himself to avoid falling into Julius Caesar's power; Otho, to avoid shedding the blood of his soldiers.

8. *Canaque . . . aquis:* 'you swim in the water of the springs white with sulphur.'

11. *Soles:* 'sunshine.'

11. *Lucrinus:* the Lucrine lake near Baiae.

Hoc mihi sunt vestrae, Castrice, divitiae.
Quondam laudatas quocunque libebat ad undas
Currere nec longas pertimuisse vias,
Nunc urbis vicina iuvant facilesque recessus,
Et satis est, pigro si licet esse mihi.

60. (VI. XLVIII.)

'Thy supper's eloquent, not thou.'

Quod tam grande sophos clamat tibi turba togata,
Non tu, Pomponi, cena diserta tua est.

61. (VI. LII.)

On the death of a clever young barber, a slave named Pantagathus.

Hoc iacet in tumulo raptus puerilibus annis
Pantagathus, domini cura dolorque sui,
Vix tangente vagos ferro resecare capillos
Doctus et hirsutas excoluisse genas.
Sis licet, ut debes, tellus, placata levisque,
Artificis levior non potes esse manu.

---

2. *Quondam . . . libebat:* 'I used to like.'
4. *Faciles:* 'easily accessible.'
5. *Pigro . . . mihi:* 'if I'm allowed to be lazy.'
6. *Sophos:* σοφῶς; 'bravo.'
6. *Turba togata:* 'thy crowd of clients.'
11. *Doctus:* 'skilled.'
11. *Hirsutas . . . genas:* 'to trim the beard on hairy cheeks.'
12. *Placata:* 'gentle.'

62. (VI. LXI.)

The poet rejoices that his works are so popular.

Laudat, amat, cantat nostros mea Roma libellos,
Meque sinus omnis, me manus omnis habet.
Ecce rubet quidam, pallet, stupet, oscitat, odit.
Hoc volo: nunc nobis carmina nostra placent.

63. (VI. LXXX.)

Winter roses.

Ut nova dona tibi, Caesar, Nilotica tellus
Miserat hibernas ambitiosa rosas.
Navita derisit Pharios Memphiticus hortos,
Urbis ut intravit limina prima tuae:
Tantus veris honos et odorae gratia Florae,
Tantaque Paestani gloria ruris erat;
Sic quacunque vagus gressumque oculosque ferebat,
Tonsilibus sertis omne rubebat iter.

---

2. *Sinus omnis:* 'every pocket.'

3. *Rubet:* 'blushes.'

3. *Oscitat:* 'yawns,' affecting weariness to conceal embarrassment.

6. *Ambitiosa:* 'proudly.'

7. *Navita . . . Memphiticus:* the Egyptian seaman who brought the roses.

7. *Pharios . . . hortos:* 'the gardens of Alexandria,' cf. note on p. 23, l. 1.

8. *Limina:* 'suburbs;' hyperbole.

9. *Veris:* 'of spring.'

10. *Paestani:* Paestum in Lucania was famous for its roses.

12. *Tonsilibus sertis:* 'with garlands of cut flowers.'

At tu Romanae iussus iam cedere brumae,
Mitte tuas messes, accipe, Nile, rosas.

64. (VI. LXXXII.)

A delicate request for a new cloak.

Quidam me modo, Rufe, diligenter
Inspectum, velut emptor aut lanista,
Cum vultu digitoque subnotasset,
"Tune es, tune," ait, "ille Martialis,
Cuius nequitias iocosque novit,
Aurem qui modo non habet Batavam?"
Subrisi modice, levique nutu
Me quem dixerat esse non negavi.
"Cur ergo," inquit, "habes malas lacernas?"
Respondi: "Quia sum malus poeta."
Hoc ne saepius accidat poetae,
Mittas, Rufe, mihi bonas lacernas.

---

1. *Cedere:* 'to yield the palm.'

1. *Brumae:* 'to winter;' i.e., to the roses raised in the Roman winter.

2.

"Let not thy winters, Nile, then vie with ours,
Go plough and send us corn; we'll send thee flowers."
ANON. 1695.

4. *Emptor:* 'a purchaser.'

4. *Lanista:* 'a trainer of gladiators.'

5. *Subnotasset:* 'had carefully examined.'

7. *Nequitias:* 'nonsense.'

8. *Batavam:* the word is not intelligible and the MS. reading is uncertain.

9. *Subrisi:* 'I smiled.'

11. *Lacernas:* 'cloak.'

11. *Malus poeta:* i.e., judging by the way in which he was paid.

65. (VI. lxxxviii.)

How the client was punished for forgetting to address his patron as "My Lord."

Mane salutavi vero te nomine casu,
  Nec dixi dominum, Caeciliane, meum.
Quanti libertas constat mihi tanta, requiris?
  Centum quadrantes abstulit illa mihi.

66. (VII. iii.)

Why the poet does not present Pontilianus with a copy of his writings.

Cur non mitto meos tibi, Pontiliane, libellos?
  Ne mihi tu mittas, Pontiliane, tuos.

67. (VII. xvi.)

Being obliged to sell the presents of his friends, as he says, the poet offers Regulus the chance to buy back his own gifts.

Aera domi non sunt, superest hoc, Regule, solum,
  Ut tua vendamus munera: numquid emis?

---

3. *Constat:* 'costs.'

4. *Centum quadrantes:* the amount of the daily dole given to clients.

7. *Aera:* 'money.'

7. *Regule:* the well-known advocate and *delator*, one of the poet's patrons.

68. (VII. xix.)

On a piece of the ship Argo.

Fragmentum quod vile putas et inutile lignum,
  Haec fuit ignoti prima carina maris,
Quam nec Cyaneae quondam potuere ruinae
  Frangere nec Scythici tristior ira freti.
Saecula vicerunt: sed quamvis cesserit annis,
  Sanctior est salva parva tabella rate.

69. (VII. xxxvi.)

Thanks for some roof tiles and a hint for some clothes.

Cum pluvias madidumque Iovem perferre negaret
  Et rudis hibernis villa nataret aquis,
Plurima, quae posset subitos effundere nimbos,
  Muneribus venit tegula missa tuis.
Horridus, ecce, sonat Boreae stridore December:
  Stella, tegis villam, non tegis agricolam.

---

3. *Cyaneae:* adj.; two rocky islets at the mouth of the Euxine Sea, also called the Symplegades.

3. *Ruinae:* 'rocks.'

4. *Scythici . . . freti:* the Euxine Sea.

6. *Salva . . . rate:* 'than an entire ship.'

6. *Tabella:* 'plank.'

7. *Madidumque Iovem:* 'and wet weather.'

7. *Negaret:* 'refused.'

8. *Rudis:* 'rustic.'

9, 10. *Plurima . . . tegula:* 'many a tile.'

9. *Effundere:* 'to shed off.'

11. *Horridus:* 'shivering,' or 'which makes one shiver.'

12. *Stella:* Arruntius Stella, consul in 101 A.D., himself something of a poet.

70. (VII. xxxix.)

Caelius, tired of attendance on his patrons, pretended to have the gout, until he really got it.

Discursus varios vagumque mane
Et fastus et ave potentiorum
Cum perferre patique iam negaret,
Coepit fingere Caelius podagram.
Quam dum vult nimis approbare veram
Et sanas linit obligatque plantas
Inceditque gradu laborioso,
— Quantum cura potest et ars doloris ! —
Desît fingere Caelius podagram.

71. (VII. xliii.)

A man who neither granted a favor nor promptly refused it.

Primum est, ut praestes, si quid te, Cinna, rogabo ;
  Illud deinde sequens, ut cito, Cinna, neges.
Diligo praestantem ; non odi, Cinna, negantem.
  Sed tu nec praestas, nec cito, Cinna, negas.

---

1. *Discursus varios:* 'running in all directions.'

1. *Vagum mane:* 'the morning spent in wandering' from house to house.

2. *Fastus:* 'pride.'

2. *Ave:* the salutation.

4. *Fingere:* 'to feign.'

4. *Podagram:* 'gout.'

6. *Linit obligatque:* 'anoints and bandages.'

6. *Plantas:* 'soles,' 'feet.'

8. *Ars doloris:* 'a sham pain.'

9. *Desît fingere:* 'has ceased to sham,' i.e., has a real attack.

10. *Primum:* i.e., my first choice.

11. *Illud . . . sequens:* 'the next best thing.'

72. (VII. LXXIII.)

Maximus has so many houses that the poet does not know where to go to salute him.

Esquiliis domus est, domus est tibi colle Dianae,
  Et tua patricius culmina vicus habet;
Hinc viduae Cybeles, illinc sacraria Vestae,
  Inde novum, veterem prospicis inde Iovem.
Dic, ubi conveniam, dic, qua te parte requiram:
  Quisquis ubique habitat, Maxime, nusquam habitat.

73. (VII. LXXXI.)

Reply to a critic.

"Triginta toto mala sunt epigrammata libro."
  Si totidem bona sunt, Lause, bonus liber est.

74. (VII. LXXXIII.)

A very slow barber.

Eutrapelus tonsor dum circuit ora Luperci
  Expingitque genas, altera barba subit.

---

1. *Colle Dianae:* i.e., the Aventine.

2. 'And another house of yours rears its head in the Patricians' quarter.'

3. *Hinc:* from the Aventine.

3. *Viduae:* 'bereaved' — of her lover Atys.

3. *Illinc:* from the Esquiline.

4. *Novum, veterem . . . Iovem:* the new temple of Jupiter on the Capitoline, and some old temple which cannot be identified with certainty.

10. *Expingit:* 'rouges.'

75. (VIII. x.)

One who bought very cheap because he never paid.

Emit lacernas milibus decem Bassus
Tyrias coloris optimi. Lucrifecit.
"Adeo bene emit?" inquis. Immo non solvet.

76. (VIII. xii.)

The disadvantage of having a rich wife.

Uxorem quare locupletem ducere nolim,
  Quaeritis? Uxori nubere nolo meae.
Inferior matrona suo sit, Prisce, marito:
  Non aliter fiunt femina virque pares.

77. (VIII. xiv.)

Complaint against one who took better care of his trees than of his poor clients.

Pallida ne Cilicum timeant pomaria brumam
  Mordeat et tenerum fortior aura nemus,
Hibernis obiecta notis specularia puros
  Admittunt soles et sine faece diem.
At mihi cella datur, non tota clusa fenestra,
  In qua nec Boreas ipse manere velit.

---

1. *Lacernas:* a 'cloak,' a 'mantle.'

1. *Milibus decem:* sc. *sestertiis.*

5. *Uxori nubere:* 'to be taken to husband by my wife.'

8. *Cilicum:* 'of Cilician trees;' the species is not stated, the point is that they are exotics.

8. *Pomaria:* 'orchards.'

10. *Notis:* 'the south winds.' Facing south, they would admit the sun.

10. *Specularia:* 'panes' of glass or talc.

11. *Sine faece:* 'filtered.'

12. *Cella:* 'a chamber.'

Sic habitare iubes veterem crudelis amicum
Arboris ergo tuae tutior hospes ero.

78. (VIII. xxiii.)

Why the cook was whipped.

Esse tibi videor saevus nimiumque gulosus,
Qui propter cenam, Rustice, caedo cocum.
Si levis ista tibi flagrorum causa videtur,
Ex qua vis causa vapulet ergo cocus?

79. (VIII. xxxii.)

A delicate appeal to the emperor in support of Aratulla's petition for the recall of her brother from exile.

Aëra per tacitum delapsa sedentis in ipsos
Fluxit Aratullae blanda columba sinus.
Luserat hoc casus, nisi inobservata maneret
Permissaque sibi nollet abire fuga.
Si meliora piae fas est sperare sorori
Et dominum mundi flectere vota valent,
Haec a Sardois tibi forsitan exulis oris,
Fratre reversuro, nuntia venit avis.

---

3. *Gulosus:* 'glutton.'

4. *Propter cenam:* 'because he spoilt the dinner.'

4. *Caedo:* 'I beat.'

5. *Flagrorum:* 'for a flogging,' lit. 'of lashes.'

6. *Vis . . . vapulet:* 'would you have him get a thrashing?'

9. *Luserat hoc casus:* 'this might have been a freak of chance.'

9. *Inobservata:* 'unwatched.'

11. *Piae:* 'loving,' 'devoted.'

13. *Sardois:* adj.; 'of Sardinia.'

13, 14. *Exulis . . . fratre reversuro* = *fratris ab exilio reversuri.*

80. (VIII. xxxv.)

A couple who should have been congenial.

Cum sitis similes paresque vita,
Uxor pessima, pessimus maritus,
Miror, non bene convenire vobis.

81. (VIII. xli.)

Two kinds of "regrets.

" Tristis Athenagoras non misit munera nobis,
Quae medio brumae mittere mense solet."
An sit Athenagoras tristis, Faustine, videbo:
Me certe tristem fecit Athenagoras.

82. (VIII. xlii.)

To a client of his own.

Si te sportula maior ad beatos
Non corruperit, ut solet, licebit
De nostro, Matho, centies laveris.

---

4. *Tristis . . . misit:* 'regrets that he did not send.'

4. *Munera:* i.e., the gifts usual at the time of the Saturnalia.

8. *Sportula:* the dole of money given by patrons to clients. It was ordinarily 100 *quadrantes;* the price of admission to the public bath being one *quadrans.*

8. *Beatos:* 'wealthy.'

9. *Corruperit:* 'win over,' 'bribe.'

10. *De nostro:* 'at my expense.'

83. (VIII. LII.)

The poet lent his barber-slave boy to Rufus, who kept him so long that he came back with his own beard grown.

Tonsorem puerum, sed arte talem,
Qualis nec Thalamus fuit Neronis,
Drusorum cuï contigere barbae,
Aequandas semel ad genas rogatus
Rufo, Caediciane, commodavi.
Dum iussus repetit pilos eosdem,
Censura speculi manum regente,
Expingitque cutem facitque longam
Detonsis epaphaeresin capillis,
Barbatus mihi tonsor est reversus.

---

1. *Tonsorem:* 'a barber.'

3. *Drusorum:* both Claudius and Nero were named Drusus.

4. *Aequandas:* 'to smooth,' i.e., 'to shave.'

5. *Commodavi:* 'I lent.'

7. *Censura . . . regente,* 'while his hand was directed by the guidance of the mirror;' this was held by the person being shaved.

8. *Expingit:* 'rouges.'

9. *Detonsis:* 'close shaven.'

9. *Epaphaeresin:* repeated going over the same ground with the razor.

84. (VIII. lxi.)

Humorous imprecation upon a detractor.

Livet Charinus, rumpitur, furit, plorat
Et quaerit altos, unde pendeat, ramos :
Non iam quod orbe cantor et legor toto,
Nec umbilicis quod decorus et cedro
Spargor per omnes Roma quas tenet gentes :
Sed quod sub urbe rus habemus aestivum
Vehimurque mulis non, ut ante, conductis.
Quid imprecabor, o Severe, liventi ?
Hoc opto : mulas habeat et suburbanum.

---

1. *Livet . . . rumpitur:* 'is bursting with envy.'

3. *Non iam*, etc. ; Charinus may be identical with *quidam* in Ep. No. 97.

4. *Nec umbilicis quod decorus et cedro:* 'adorned with elegant bosses and annointed with oil of cedar.'

5. *Spargor:* 'I am circulated.'

7. *Conductis:* 'hired.'

8. *Quid imprecabor:* 'what curse shall I call down ?'

8. *Liventi:* 'on the envious man.'

85. (VIII. LXIV.)

A man who pretended to have a birthday almost every month in order to get presents from his friends.

Ut poscas, Clyte, munus exigasque,
Uno nasceris octies in anno
Et solas, puto, tresve quattuorve
Non natalicias habes Kalendas.
Sit vultus tibi levior licebit
Tritis litoris aridi lapillis,
Sit moro coma nigrior caduco,
Vincas mollitia tremente plumas
Aut massam modo lactis alligati,
Tu nobis, Clyte, iam senex videris:
Tam multos quis enim fuisse credat
Natales Priamive Nestorisve?
Sit tandem pudor et modus rapinis.
Quod si ludis adhuc semelque nasci
Uno iam tibi non sat est in anno,
Natum te, Clyte, nec semel putabo.

---

2. *Nasceris:* 'you have a birthday.'

6. *Lapillis:* 'pebbles.'

7. *Moro . . . caduco:* 'than a ripe (lit. fallen) mulberry.'

8. *Vincas . . . plumas:* 'you surpass feathers in the delicate softness (of your flesh).'

9. *Massam . . . alligati:* 'mass of milk just curdled.'

16. *Natum . . . nec semel:* i.e., a man of no birth at all.

86. (VIII. LXVII.)

Caecilianus, invited to dinner at the ninth hour, came before the fifth. His host tells him he is too late for breakfast.

Horas quinque puer nondum tibi nuntiat, et tu
  Iam conviva mihi, Caeciliane, venis,
Cum modo distulerint raucae vadimonia quartae
  Et Floralicias lasset harena feras.
Curre, age, et inlotos revoca, Calliste, ministros;
  Sternantur lecti: Caeciliane, sede.
Caldam poscis aquam: nondum mihi frigida venit;
  Alget adhuc nudo clusa culina foco.
Mane veni potius; nam cur te quinta moretur?
  Ut ientes, sero, Caeciliane, venis.

1. *Puer:* The Romans kept slaves to tell them the time, which was indicated by the sun-dial or the water-clock.

2. *Conviva:* 'guest.'

3. *Distulerint . . . quartae:* 'have just adjourned the lawsuits;' courts sat regularly from the third to the fourth hour.

3. *Raucae:* it was the voices of the advocates which grew 'hoarse' by the fourth hour.

4. *Floralicias . . . feras:* wild beasts exhibited by the aediles at the Floralia, at the fourth and fifth hours.

5. *Inlotos . . . ministros:* 'the slaves who have not yet bathed.'

5. *Calliste:* apparently the major-domo or chief slave; an ironical command, of course.

8. *Culina:* 'kitchen.'

10. *Ut ientes:* 'to breakfast;' the *ientaculum* was the first meal of the day, taken irregularly, according to circumstances.

87. (VIII. LXIX.)

To a critic who admired no authors but the ancients.

Miraris veteres, Vacerra, solos,
Nec laudas nisi mortuos poetas.
Ignoscas petimus, Vacerra: tanti
Non est, ut placeam tibi, perire.

88. (VIII. LXXVI.)

To a friend who begged for a frank criticism of his literary performance.

"Dic verum mihi, Marce, dic amabo;
Nil est, quod magis audiam libenter."
Sic et cum recitas tuos libellos,
Et causam quotiens agis clientis,
Oras, Gallice, me rogasque semper.
Durum est me tibi, quod petis, negare.
Vero verius ergo quid sit, audi:
Verum, Gallice, non libenter audis.

---

3. *Ignoscas petimus:* 'I beg your pardon.'

3. *Tanti non est:* 'it is not worth my while.'

5. *Amabo:* 'please,' 'I beg.'

89. (IX. vii.)

A patron who was never "at home."

Dicere de Libycis reduci tibi gentibus, Afer,
Continuis volui quinque diebus Ave:
"Non vacat" aut "Dormit" dictum est bis terque reverso.
Iam satis est: non vis, Afer, avere: vale.

90. (IX. xv.)

An ambiguous inscription on the graves of seven husbands of one woman.

Inscripsit tumulis septem scelerata virorum
"Se fecisse" Chloe. Quid pote simplicius?

91. (IX. xxx.)

Nigrina's love for her dead husband.

Cappadocum saevis Antistius occidit oris
Rusticus. O tristi crimine terra nocens!
Rettulit ossa sinu cari Nigrina mariti
Et questa est longas non satis esse vias;
Cumque, daret sanctam tumulis, quibus invidet, urnam,
Visa sibi est rapto bis viduata viro.

---

1. *Reduci*: 'on your return.'

2. *Continuis*: 'successive.'

3. *Non vacat*, etc.: this is what he was told by the doorkeeper at Afer's house.

7. *Se fecisse*: i.e., '*Chloe fecit*,' meaning that she erected the tombs.

7. *Pote*: sc. *erat esse*.

9. *Rusticus*: Antistius's surname.

10. *Sinu*: 'in her bosom;' she carried an urn containing the ashes.

92. (IX. XLVI.)

On a man who was forever making repairs, to avoid lending money to his friends, on the plea that he was building.

Gellius aedificat semper: modo limina ponit,
Nunc foribus claves aptat emitque seras,
Nunc has, nunc illas reficit mutatque fenestras;
Dum tantum aedificet, quidlibet ille facit —
Oranti nummos ut dicere possit amico
Unum illud verbum Gellius "Aedifico."

93. (IX. LII.)

On the birthday of Quintus Ovidius.

Si credis mihi, Quinte, quod mereris,
Natales, Ovidi, tuas Apriles
Ut nostras amo Martias Kalendas.
Felix utraque lux diesque nobis
Signandi melioribus lapillis!
Hic vitam tribuit, sed hic amicum.
Plus dant, Quinte, mihi tuae Kalendae.

---

1. *Limina:* 'doorsills.'

2. *Claves:* 'keys,' 'locks.'

2. *Seras:* 'bolts,' 'bars.'

4. *Dum tantum:* 'provided only;' *tantum* = *modo.*

7. *Quod mereris:* 'as you deserve.'

8. *Ovidi:* not the poet Ovid.

11. *Signandi . . . lapillis:* 'to be marked with white stones;' i.e., as we should say 'red letter days.'

12. *Hic:* the Kalends of March; *hic:* his friend's birthday.

94. (IX. LIII.)

The same subject.

Natali tibi, Quinte, tuo dare parva volebam
Munera; tu prohibes: imperiosus homo es.
Parendum est monitis, fiat quod uterque volemus
Et quod utrumque iuvat: tu mihi, Quinte, dato.

95. (IX. LX.)

On a wreath of roses sent to his friend Caesius Sabinus.

Seu tu Paestanis genita es seu Tiburis arvis,
Seu rubuit tellus Tuscula flore tuo,
Seu Praenestino te vilica legit in horto,
Seu modo Campani gloria ruris eras:
Pulchrior ut nostro videare corona Sabino,
De Nomentano te putet esse meo.

96. (IX. LXX.)

On a man of bad character who complained of the degeneracy of the times.

Dixerat "O mores! O tempora!" Tullius olim,
Sacrilegum strueret cum Catilina nefas,
Cum gener atque socer diris concurreret armis

---

5. *Paestanis:* 'of Paestum,' on the Lucanian coast.

6. *Rubuit:* 'blushed,' 'was reddened.'

7. *Vilica:* 'the bailiff's wife.'

10. *De Nomentano:* 'from my farm at Nomentum.'

11. *Tullius:* Cicero, *in Cat.* I. i. 2.

12. *Strueret:* 'was plotting.'

13. *Gener . . . socer:* Pompey and Julius Caesar.

Maestaque civili caede maderet humus.
Cur nunc "O mores!" cur nunc "O tempora!" dicis?
Quod tibi non placeat, Caeciliane, quid est?
Nulla ducum feritas, nulla est insania ferri;
Pace frui certa laetitiaque licet.
Non nostri faciunt, tibi quod tua tempora sordent,
Sed faciunt mores, Caeciliane, tui.

97. (IX. XCVII.)

On the jealousy of an unknown enemy; addressed to his friend Julius Martialis.

Rumpitur invidia quidam, carissime Iuli,
Quod me Roma legit, rumpitur invidia.
Rumpitur invidia, quod turba semper in omni
Monstramur digito, rumpitur invidia.
Rumpitur invidia, tribuit quod Caesar uterque
Ius mihi natorum, rumpitur invidia.
Rumpitur invidia, quod rus mihi dulce sub urbe est
Parvaque in urbe domus, rumpitur invidia.
Rumpitur invidia, quod sum iucundus amicis,
Quod conviva frequens, rumpitur invidia.
Rumpitur invidia, quod amamur quodque probamur:
Rumpatur, quisquis rumpitur invidia.

---

5. This line is a compliment to the reigning emperor, Domitian.

6. *Sordent*: 'seem despicable.'

8. *Rumpitur invidia*: 'is bursting with envy.'

12. *Caesar uterque*: Titus first, then Domitian.

13. *Ius . . . natorum*: the *ius trium liberorum*, the privileges of a father of three children.

17. *Conviva frequens*: 'a constantly invited guest.'

98. (IX. CII.)

The poet announces to a money lender, Phoebus, his inability to pay his debt.

Quadringentorum reddis mihi, Phoebe, tabellas:
Centum da potius mutua, Phoebe, mihi.
Quaere alium, cui te tam vano munere iactes:
Quod tibi non possum solvere, Phoebe, meum est.

99. (X. XIX.)

The poet sends his book by the Muse to his friend Pliny the younger.

Nec doctum satis et parum severum,
Sed non rusticulum nimis libellum
Facundo mea Plinio Thalia
I perfer: brevis est labor peractae
Altum vincere tramitem Suburae.
Illic Orphea protinus videbis
Udi vertice lubricum theatri

---

1. *Quadringentorum . . . tabellas:* 'you cancel my debt of 400 sesterces,' i.e., give back the evidence of it.

2. *Da . . . mutua:* 'lend.'

7. *Thalīa:* the Muse of comedy.

8. *Peractae:* 'when you have passed the Subura.'

9. *Altum . . . tramitem:* 'the way up hill.'

9. *Suburae:* a street in Rome in the valley between the Quirinal, Viminal and Esquiline.

10. *Orphea:* a statue of Orpheus.

11. *Udi . . . theatri:* a semicircular basin, with steps like the seats of a theatre, enclosing a pool called the *lacus Orphei.*

Mirantesque feras avemque regis,
Raptum quae Phryga pertulit Tonanti;
Sed ne tempore non tuo disertam
Pulses ebria ianuam, videto:
Totos dat tetricae dies Minervae,
Dum centum studet auribus virorum
Hoc quod saeculo posterique possint
Arpinis quoque comparare chartis.
Seras tutior ibis ad lucernas:
Haec hora est tua, cum furit Lyaeus,
Cum regnat rosa, cum madent capilli:
Tunc me vel rigidi legant Catones.

(Cf. Plin. Ep. III. 21, where the epigram is quoted on the occasion of the news of Martial's death. It was probably written just before his journey to Spain, for which Pliny gave him money to pay his travelling expenses.)

1. *Avemque regis:* Jupiter's eagle, which carried off Ganymedes (*Phryga*, acc) from Mt. Ida.

3. *Non tuo*: 'inopportune.'

5. *Tetricae . . . Minervae:* 'to severe study.'

6. *Centum . . . virorum*: 'of the centumviri,' i.e., one of the civil courts of Rome, before which he appeared as an advocate.

8. *Arpinis . . . chartis:* i.e., to the writings of Cicero.

9. *Lucernas:* 'lamps.'

10. *Lyaeus:* Bacchus, the care-dispeller.

12. *Catones* · Cato of Utica, was a type of strict propriety.

100. (X. xxiii.)

On Antonius Primus, the old general of Vespasian.

Iam numerat placido felix Antonius aevo
Quindeciens actas Primus Olympiadas
Praeteritosque dies et totos respicit annos,
Nec metuit Lethes iam proprioris aquas.
Nulla recordanti lux est ingrata gravisque
Nulla fuit cuius non meminisse velit.
Ampliat aetatis spatium sibi vir bonus: hoc est
Vivere bis, vita posse priore frui.

101. (X. xxiv.)

On his own fifty-seventh birthday.

Natales mihi Martiae Kalendae,
Lux formosior omnibus Kalendis,
Qua mittunt mihi munus et puellae,
Quinquagesima liba septimamque

---

1. *Placido . . . aevo:* 'in a peaceful old age.'

2. *Quindeciens . . . Olympiadas:* this is but sixty years, unless we reckon five years to an Olympiad, making seventy-five, a much more appropriate number.

4. *Lethes:* genitive.

7. *Ampliat:* 'lengthens,' 'extends.'

11. *Mittunt . . . puellae:* on this date men usually sent presents to girls. It was the ancient New Year's Day.

12. *Liba:* 'cakes;' they were offered to the gods on one's birthday.

Vestris addimus hanc focis acerram.
His vos, si tamen expedit roganti,
Annos addite bis precor novenos,
Ut nondum nimia piger senecta,
Sed vitae tribus areis peractis
Lucos Elysiae petam puellae.
Post hunc Nestora nec diem rogabo.

102. (X. xxxix.)

An old woman who lied about her age.

Consule te Bruto quod iuras, Lesbia, natam,
  Mentiris. Nata es, Lesbia, rege Numa?
Sic quoque mentiris. Namque, ut tua saecula narrant,
  Ficta Prometheo diceris esse luto.

---

1. *Acerram:* 'incense box.'

3. *Bis . . . novenos:* 57 + 18 = 75, an ideal old age.

5. *Tribus areis:* like three tracks in the circus; childhood, manhood, old age.

6. *Elysiae . . . puellae:* Proserpina, goddess of Hades.

7. *Post hunc:* sc. *diem*, or else, less probably, *Post hunc Nestorem* = 'after becoming such a Nestor as this.'

8. *Consule . . . Bruto:* the first year of the republic.

9. *Numa:* the second king of Rome.

10. *Saecula:* '(apparent) age.'

12. *Ficta . . . luto:* 'formed of the clay of Prometheus, who made the first man of earth and water.'

103. (X. XLVII.)

"Vitae praecepta beatae."

Vitam quae faciant beatiorem,
Iucundissime Martialis, haec sunt:
Res non parta labore, sed relicta;
Non ingratus ager, focus perennis;
Lis nunquam, toga rara, mens quieta;
Vires ingenuae, salubre corpus;
Prudens simplicitas, pares amici;
Convictus facilis, sine arte mensa;
Nox non ebria, sed soluta curis;
Non tristis torus, et tamen pudicus;
Somnus, qui faciat breves tenebras:
Quod sis, esse velis nihilque malis;
Summum nec metuas diem nec optes.

---

2. *Martialis:* sc. Julius, cf. Nos. 5 and 97.

3. *Relicta:* i.e., inherited.

4. *Perennis:* 'filled all the round.'

5. *Lis:* 'a law suit.'

5. *Toga rara:* the toga seldom needed, to appear at the patron's house or in the forum.

6. *Vires ingenuae:* 'a vigorous constitution;' or perhaps 'genteel (i.e., moderate) strength.'

8. *Convictus facilis:* 'unconstrained social intercourse.'

10. *Tristis:* 'prudish.'

10. *Pudicus:* 'modest,' 'chaste.'

104. (X. lx.)

A burlesque of the *ius trium liberorum.*

Iura trium petiit a Caesare discipulorum
Assuetus semper Munna docere duos.

105. (X. lxi.)

Epitaph on Erotion.

Hic festinata requiescit Erotion umbra,
Crimine quam fati sexta peremit hiems.
Quisquis eris nostri post me regnator agelli,
Manibus exiguis annua iusta dato:
Sic lare perpetuo, sic turba sospite solus
Flebilis in terra sit lapis iste tua.

Cf. No. 50.

3. *Festinata . . . umbra:* 'in premature shadow,' i.e., in the darkness of an early grave.

5. *Regnator = dominus:* 'owner.'

5. *Agelli:* diminutive of *ager.*

6. *Manibus exiguis:* 'to the shade of the little one.'

6. *Annua iusta:* 'the due yearly offerings.'

7. *Lare perpetuo:* 'with the line of descent unbroken.'

7. *Turba sospite:* 'with household in health?'

8. *Flebilis:* 'to be mourned over.'

106. (X. LXII.)

A plea for summer holidays, addressed to a harsh schoolmaster.

Ludi magister, parce simplici turbae :
Sic te frequentes audiant capillati
Et delicatae diligat chorus mensae,
Nec calculator nec notarius velox
Maiore quisquam circulo coronetur.
Albae leone flammeo calent luces
Tostamque fervens Iulius coquit messem
Cirrata loris horridis Scythae pellis,
Qua vapulavit Marsyas Celaenaeus,
Ferulaeque tristes, sceptra paedagogorum,
Cessent et Idus dormiant in Octobres :
Aestate pueri si valent, satis discunt.

107. (X. XCVII.)

A disappointed heir.

Dum levis arsura struitur Libitina papyro,
Dum myrrham et casiam flebilis uxor emit,

---

1. *Ludi magister:* 'schoolmaster.'

1. *Simplici:* 'childish.'

2. *Sic:* 'on that condition,' 'if you do so.'

2. *Capillati:* 'long-haired,' i.e., children of good birth.

3. *Delicatae . . . chorus mensae:* 'class seated at your dainty table.'

4. *Calculator:* 'teacher of arithmetic.'

4. *Notarius:* 'a shorthand teacher.'

5. *Circulo:* 'by a class.'

5. *Coronetur:* 'be surrounded.'

6. *Leone:* the sign of the zodiac for July and August.

8. *Cirrata:* sc. *scutica:* 'a scourge.'

9. *Vapulavit:* 'was flogged.'

10. *Ferulae:* 'rods.'

13. *Libitīna:* 'the pyre,' lit. the goddess of death.

14. *Myrrham et casiam:* 'myrrh and cassia.'

14. *Flebilis:* 'in tears.'

Iam scrobe, iam lecto, iam pollinctore parato
Heredem scripsit me Numa: convaluit.

108. (XI. v.)

Praise of the Emperor Trajan.

Tanta tibi est recti reverentia, Caesar, et aequi,
Quanta Numae fuerat: sed Numa pauper erat.
Ardua res haec est, opibus non tradere mores
Et, cum tot Croesos viceris, esse Numam.
Si redeant veteres, ingentia nomina, patres,
Elysium liceat si vacuare nemus:
Te colet invictus pro libertate Camillus,
Aurum Fabricius, te tribuente, volet;
Te duce gaudebit Brutus, tibi Sulla cruentus
Imperium tradet, cum positurus erit;
Et te privato cum Caesare Magnus amabit,
Donabit totas et tibi Crassus opes.
Ipse quoque infernis revocatus Ditis ab umbris
Si Cato reddatur, Caesarianus erit.

---

1. *Scrobe:* 'the trench,' 'grave.'

1. *Pollinctore:* 'the anointer' of the corpse.

5. *Tradere:* 'to surrender.'

9. *Te . . . libertate:* 'thee instead of liberty,' or possibly *invictus pro libertate* means 'unconquered in his fights for freedom.'

9. *Camillus:* conqueror of the Gauls and of Veii.

10. *Aurum:* Fabricius refused the bribes of Pyrrhus and the gifts of the Samnites.

13. *Privato cum Caesare:* 'together with Julius Caesar in a private station.'

13. *Magnus:* sc. *Pompeius.*

14. *Crassus:* the richest Roman of his time.

16. *Cato:* sc. *Uticensis*, who killed himself after Caesar's victory in the Civil War.

16. *Caesarianus:* i.e., an adherent of Trajan.

109. (XI. xviii.)

A comic lament over the small size of a farm given to Martial by Lupus.

Donasti, Lupe, rus sub urbe nobis;
Sed rus est mihi maius in fenestra.
Rus hoc dicere, rus potes vocare?
In quo ruta facit nemus Dianae,
Argutae tegit ala quod cicadae,
Quod formica die comedit uno,
Clusae cui folium rosae corona est;
In quo non magis invenitur herba,
Quam Cosmi folium piperve crudum;
In quo nec cucumis iacere rectus,
Nec serpens habitare tota possit.
Erucam male pascit hortus unam,
Consumpto moritur culix salicto,
Et talpa est mihi fossor atque arator.
Non boletus hiare, non mariscae
Ridere aut violae patere possunt.
Fines mus populatur et colono
Tanquam sus Calydonius timetur,

4. *Ruta*: 'a rue plant.'

5. *Argutae*: 'shrill.'

6. *Formica*: 'an ant.'

7. *Clusae . . . folium rosae*: 'the leaf of a rosebud.'

9. *Cosmi*: Cosmus was a famous perfumer.

10. *Cucumis*: 'cucumber.'

10. *Rectus*: 'straight,' 'at full length.'

12. *Erucam*: 'caterpillar.'

13. *Culix*: 'gnat.'

13. *Salicto*: 'willow bed.'

14. *Talpa*: 'a mole.'

15. *Boletus*: 'mushroom.'

15. *Hiare*: 'expand.'

15. *Mariscae*: 'figs' of an inferior sort.

16. *Ridere*: 'bloom.'

18. *Sus Calydonius*: 'the Calydonian boar,' slain by Meleager.

Et sublata volantis ungue Prognes
In nido seges est hirundinino;
Vix implet cocleam peracta messis,
Et mustum nuce condimus picata.
Errasti, Lupe, littera sed una:
Nam quo tempore praedium dedisti,
Mallem tu mihi prandium dedisses.

110. (XI. XXIV.)

The poet complains that he wastes too much time in attendance on his patron Labullus.

Dum te prosequor et domum reduco,
Aurem dum tibi praesto garrienti,
Et quidquid loqueris facisque laudo,
Quot versus poterant, Labulle, nasci!
Hoc damnum tibi non videtur esse,
Si quod Roma legit, requirit hospes,
Non deridet eques, tenet senator,
Laudat causidicus, poeta carpit,
Propter te perit — hoc Labulle, verum est —?
Hoc quisquam ferat? ut tibi tuorum
Sit maior numerus togatulorum,
Librorum mihi sit minor meorum?
Triginta prope iam diebus una est
Nobis pagina vix peracta. Sic fit,
Cum cenare domi poeta non vult.

---

1. *Ungue:* 'in the claw.'
1. *Prognes:* 'of a swallow.'
2. *Hirundinino:* 'a swallow's.'
3. *Cocleam:* 'a snail shell.'
3. *Peracta:* 'finished,' 'gathered in.'
4. *Mustum:* 'new wine.'
4. *Picata:* 'sealed with pitch.'
9. *Garrienti:* 'chattering.'
18. *Togatulorum:* 'clients.'

111. (XI. xxxv.)

The poet objects to dining with a large company all of whom are strangers to him.

Ignotos mihi cum voces trecentos,
Quare non veniam vocatus a te,
Miraris quererisque litigasque.
Solus ceno, Fabulle, non libenter.

112. (XI. xxxviii.)

A muleteer who brought a high price because he was deaf.

Mulio viginti venît modo milibus, Aule.
Miraris pretium tam grave? Surdus erat.

113. (XI. xlviii.)

Silius Italicus, the poet, had bought the estate containing Cicero's grave and had paid special honors at the tomb of Virgil.

Silius haec magni celebrat monumenta Maronis,
Iugera facundi qui Ciceronis habet.
Heredem dominumque sui tumulive larisve
Non alium mallet nec Maro nec Cicero.

---

1. *Voces:* 'you invite.'

1. *Trecentos:* an indefinitely large number.

3. *Litigas:* 'quarrel with me.'

5. *Mulio:* 'a muleteer.'

6. *Surdus erat:* and therefore could not overhear and repeat conversations.

7. *Maronis:* sc. *Vergilii.*

114. (XI. LXXXII.)

On a man who, after dining out, nearly broke his neck on the way home.

A Sinuessanis conviva Philostratus undis
Conductum repetens nocte iubente larem
Paene imitatus obît saevis Elpenora fatis,
Praeceps per longos dum ruit usque gradus.
Non esset, Nymphae, tam magna pericula passus,
Si potius vestras ille bibisset aquas.

115. (XII. XII.)

To one who made liberal promises in his cups.

Omnia promittis, cum tota nocte bibisti;
Mane nihil praestas. Pollio, mane bibe.

---

1. *A Sinuessanis . . . undis:* 'from the baths of Sinuessa' in Campania.

2. *Conductum . . . larem:* 'lodgings,' lit. 'hired house.'

3. *Paene:* construe with *obit.*

3. *Elpēnora:* a companion of Ulysses, who fell from the roof of Circe's palace and broke his neck.

4. *Praeceps:* 'head foremost.'

4. *Usque:* 'all the way to the bottom.'

8. *Praestas:* 'perform.'

116. (XII. XVIII.)

"Oppidi laudat rura sui."

Dum tu forsitan inquietus erras
Clamosa, Iuvenalis, in Subura,
Aut collem dominae teris Dianae;
Dum per limina te potentiorum
Sudatrix toga ventilat vagumque
Maior Caelius et minor fatigant:
Me multos repetita post Decembres
Accepit mea rusticumque fecit
Auro Bilbilis et superba ferro.
Hic pigri colimus labore dulci
Boterdum Plateamque — Celtiberis
Haec sunt nomina crassiora terris —:
Ingenti fruor improboque somno,
Quem nec tertia saepe rumpit hora,
Et totum mihi nunc repono, quidquid
Ter denos vigilaveram per annos.
Ignota est toga, sed datur petenti
Rupta proxima vestis a cathedra.

---

2. *Iuvenalis:* it is not known whether this is the great poet.

3. *Collem . . . Dianae:* the Aventine.

5. *Sudatrix:* 'which makes you sweat.'

5. *Ventilat:* 'fans.'

8. *Mea:* construe with *Bilbilis;* 'my native.'

12. *Crassiora:* 'uncouth.'

13. *Improbo:* 'unconscionably long.'

14. *Nec:* = *ne . . . quidem.*

15. *Repono:* 'I am making up.'

17. *Toga:* the conventional toilet of the city.

18. *Rupta . . . cathedra:* 'from a broken chair.'

Surgentem focus excipit superba
Vicini strue cultus iliceti,
Multa vilica quem coronat olla.
Dispensat pueris rogatque longos
Levis ponere vilicus capillos.
Sic me vivere, sic iuvat perire.

117. (XII. xxv.)

To an old friend who would not make him a loan without security.

Cum rogo te nummos sine pignore, "Non habeo," inquis;
  Idem, si pro me spondet agellus, habes:
Quod mihi non credis veteri, Telesine, sodali,
  Credis coliculis arboribusque meis.
Ecce, reum Carus te detulit: assit agellus.
  Exilio comitem quaeris: agellus eat.

---

1. *Surgentem:* 'when I get up in the morning.'

2. 'Piled with a glorious heap of wood from the neighboring oak grove.'

3. *Vilica:* 'the bailiff's wife.'

3. *Olla:* 'a pot.'

4. *Dispensat:* 'serves out rations.'

5. *Lēvis:* 'close cropped.'

5. *Ponere:* the young slaves had their hair cut on coming to manhood, when they were expected to do men's work.

7. *Rogo:* i.e., as a loan.

7. *Sine pignore:* 'without security.'

8. *Idem:* 'yet you.'

8. *Spondet:* 'stands pledged,' 'is security.'

10. *Credis:* 'trust,' 'lend to.'

10. *Coliculis:* 'acres.'

11. *Carus;* an informer.

11. *Assit:* 'undertake your defence.'

118. (XII. XXXI.)

An earthly paradise.

Hoc nemus, hi fontes, haec textilis umbra supini
  Palmitis, hoc riguae ductile flumen aquae,
Prataque nec bifero cessura rosaria Paesto,
  Quodque viret Iani mense nec alget holus,
Quaeque natat clusis anguilla domestica lymphis,
  Quaeque gerit similes candida turris aves,
Munera sunt dominae: post septima lustra reverso
  Has Marcella domos parvaque regna dedit.
Si mihi Nausicaa patrios concederet hortos,
  Alcinoo possem dicere "Malo meos."

---

1. *Textilis:* 'interwoven,' 'interlacing.'

1. *Supini . . . palmitis:* 'arching vine branches.'

2. *Riguae:* 'irrigating.'

2. *Ductile flumen:* 'channelled stream.'

3. *Bifero:* 'bearing twice in the year.'

3. *Rosaria:* 'rose gardens.'

4. *Holus:* 'vegetables.'

5. *Anguilla:* 'eel.'

6. *Similes:* i.e., *candidas.*

6. *Turris:* 'dove cote.'

7. *Dominae:* 'patroness;' cf. Introduction, p. viii.

7. *Reverso:* sc. *mihi;* i.e., from Rome to Bilbilis.

9. *Nausicaa:* daughter of Alcinous, king of the Phaeacians, who entertained Ulysses.

119. (XII. XLVII.)

A character made up of contradictions.

Difficilis facilis, iucundus acerbus es idem :
Nec tecum possum vivere, nec sine te.

120. (XII. LVI.)

A man who shammed illness often, in order to get presents on his supposed recovery.

Aegrotas uno decies aut saepius anno,
Nec tibi, sed nobis hoc, Polycharme, nocet :
Nam quotiens surgis, soteria poscis amicos.
Sit pudor : aegrota iam, Polycharme, semel.

---

3. *Aegrotas :* 'you fall ill.'

5. *Soteria :* congratulatory gifts, on recovery from illness.

6. *Semel :* 'once for all.'

Date ~~Loaned~~ Due

APR 6	1923		
NOV 3	1925		